(c) whether steps will be taken so that similarly situated persons residing in Kerala will also avail above facility;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Persons of Indian origin including Pak nationals, who apply for grant of Indian citizenship, are considered under the provisions of section 5(1 )(a) of the Citizenship Act, 1955. No definite number of such applicants can be specified, as the applications have to go through different stages in the State/Central Government.

(c) The provisions of the Citizenship Act, 1955 and the Rules made thereunder apply to the whole of India.

(d) and (e) Questions do not arise.

**Illegal immigrants in the country**

2398. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that illegal immigrants in the country have increased manifold during the last three years;

(b) if so, what are the total number of illegal immigrants staying in India as on 31st December, 2004;

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter of illegal immigrants with other countries like, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka; and

(d) if so, the outcome therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The number of foreigners illegally staying in the last three years as on 31st December of the year, is as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| 2001 | 39,843 |
| 2002 | 46,818 |
| 2003 | 46,587 |

(d) if so, the outcome therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) No, Sir, The number of foreigners illegally staying in the last three years as on 31st December of the year, Is as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| 2001 | 39,843 |
| 2002 | 46,818 |
| 2003 | 46,587 |

(c) and (d) The matter has been taken up with the Government of Bangladesh in bilateral dialogues at different levels. Government of Bangladesh has expressed its determination to stop illegal movement of people across the border by all possible means including the strengthening of existing arrangements and mutual cooperation in this regard. Sri Lankans have been accommodated by Government of India as refugees. There is a visa-free regime with Nepal. Therefore, there is no illegal migration from Nepal in India.

**Compensation to farmers who are deprived of farming due to fencing**

2399. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be" pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise area of agricultural land situated beyond the barbed wire fencing on Indo-Pakistan and Indo-Bangladesh borders;

(b) what are the arrangements to cultivate this land;

(c) whether there is any arrangement to compensate these farmers, who are not able to cultivate their lands because of the barbed wire fencing; and

(d) if so, what are the rates of such compensation and whether Government are paying this compensation regularly or there are some arrears and in case there are arrears to be paid, by when Government plan to pay these arrears?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The information is given in the enclosed